

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO NORTHWEST FISHERIES CENTER

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE, NOAA, COMMERCE

2725 MONTLAKE BOULEVARD EAST

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5498

UNCLAS SEOUL 1164

FOR NFC PASS MCNEELY AND FUKUHARA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, KS

SUBJECT: NMFS, DOLPHIN-PROOF TUNA PURSE SEINE NET MANUFACTURE
IN KOREA

REF: SEOUL 0648

1. IN COURSE OF WEEK LONG ORIENTATION TOUR TO SOUTHERN CITIES, EMBOFF CALLED UPON NAM YANG FISHNET INDUSTRIAL CO., PUSAN ON FEBRUARY 11 AND WITNESSED MANUFACTURE AND PACKING OF (DOC) NORTHWEST FISHERIES CENTER ORDER. REVERIFIED FEBRUARY 17 THAT LOADING DATE WAS FEBRUARY 13 FROM PUSAN VIA SEALAND VESSEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR DESIRES AND NO RPT NO DIFFICULTIES FORESEEN IN MEETING REMAINDER OF ORDER. ANY SLIPPAGE IN SCHEDULE WILL BE RESULT OF VESSEL ARRIVALS OR DEPARTURES RATHER THAN PERFORMANCE BY NAM YANG.

2. PLANT FACILITIES, WHICH ARE LOCATED WITHIN 2 BLOCKS OF ROKG OFFICE OF FISHERIES RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTERS IN FISHING PORT AREA, INCLUDE EXCELLENT TYING AND SPECIALIZED QUALITY CONTROL MACHINERY. FIRM REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSED DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT OVER THEIR UNDERSTANDING THAT NFC FOLLOW ON
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ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL NETS HAD BEEN PLACED WITH A JAPANESE MANU-

FACTURER AND STATED THAT THEY WOULD HAVE NO RPT NO DIFFICULTY IN MEETING ADDITIONAL ORDERS. THEY EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT NFC HAD BEEN INFLUENCED BY COMPETITORS FALSE CLAIMS THAT NAM YANG COULD NOT FULFILL EVEN ORIGINAL 58 BALE ORDER ON TIME. EMBOFF STATED THAT HE HAD NO RPT NO KNOWLEDGE OF NFC REQUIREMENTS OR BACKGROUND RE ORDER, BUT WOULD REPORT THEIR COMMENTS AS REQUESTED.

3. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH MR. HUE JONG SOO, CHIEF OF FISHERIES RESOURCES SECTION (IN LIEU OF DIRECTOR KIM WHO WAS ABSENT BECAUSE OF DEATH IN FAMILY), EMBOFF STRESSED URGENT NEED FOR CATCH DATA AND STATISTICAL INFORMATION FROM ROK SIDE AS REQUESTED DURING ROK-US CONSULTATIONS IN NOVEMBER. MR. HUE NOTED THAT ONLY 7 VESSELS HAD BEEN DESIGNATED IN 1975 TO PROVIDE DATA WHICH HAD BEEN PASSED TO U.S. RELUCTANCE OF "SIMPLE" FISHERMEN TO PROVIDE DATA HAS BEEN A PROBLEM WHICH OFA IS NOW REMEDYING WITH NEW REGULATIONS WHICH ESTABLISH ZLEGAL PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNMENT DATA REQUIREMENTS. MECHANICS OF ISSUANCE OF REGULATIONS HAS BEEN SUCH THAT VESSELS GOING TO SEA THIS YEAR WILL BE UNDER COMPULSION. DEPENDING ON LENGTH OF VOYAGES, ETC., OFA REPRESENTATIVES HOPE THAT DATA ACQUISITION PROBLEM CAN BE SOLVED WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME. BIOLOGISTS HOPEFUL THAT EXTENSIVE TEST STATION PROGRAM IS LEADING TOWARD PRODUCTION OF OYSTERS WHICH MEET US SHELLFISH SANITATION STANDARDS.
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